

WEATHER PROBABILITIES.

For the District of Columbia, Delaware and Maryland, fair; warmer; northerly winds, becoming variable.

The



Times

The Circulation of THE TIMES Yesterday WAS 38,148 COPIES.

NO. 1,125.

WASHINGTON, SUNDAY MORNING, APRIL 18, 1897—TWENTY PAGES.

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TURKEY MAKES WAR

Invasion of Macedonia Stirs It Into Action.

THE PORTE BLAMES GREECE

Edhem Pasha Has Been Ordered to Assume the Offensive.

A BATTLE EXPECTED SOON

At a Council of the Turkish Ministers Yesterday It Was Decided to Open Hostilities. The Greek Minister Has Been Given His Passports and the Turkish Commander Ordered to Attack the Enemy—Although Inferior in Military Strength, the Greeks Will Prove Formidable Opponents. Both Sides Have Been Leger for a Declaration of War, and It Is Difficult to Predict the Outcome.

London, April 17.—The Observer has a dispatch from Constantinople showing that the long threatened war between Turkey and Greece has at last been officially declared by the Porte. The dispatch, which was sent from Constantinople at midnight, says it is declared that owing to fresh incursions into Macedonia, by the Greeks, war has broken out between the two countries.

It further says that at a council of the ministers held at the Yildiz Kiosk Saturday, it was decided to recall Askin Bey, the Turkish minister at Athens, and hand to Prince Mavrocordato, the Greek minister to Turkey, his passports.

The ministers also resolved to send orders to Edhem Pasha, the Turkish commander-in-chief in Macedonia, to assume the offensive. A circular was addressed last evening to the Ottoman envoys abroad detailing the latest events in the Greek-Turkish dispute, including last week's invasion of Macedonia. The Porte declares, despite the official details of the Greek government, that Greek troops took part in the invasion. The circular expresses the hope that the powers, in a spirit of justice, will agree that the entire responsibility for war rests upon Greece. The circular concludes:

"Turkey has no idea of conquest, and as fresh proof of her peaceful sentiments, is willing to withdraw her troops, if Greece withdraws hers from the frontier and from Crete."

Though the recalling of the Turkish minister from Athens, the dismissal of the Greek minister from Constantinople, and the ordering of Edhem Pasha to assume the offensive against the Greeks, are all preliminary to a declaration of war, it does not appear from the above dispatch that such a declaration has been formally made, though there is not the slightest doubt that it will be issued as soon as the Sultan can affix his signature.

It has been contended in various quarters that the raid by Greek irregulars into Macedonia was made for the sole purpose of forcing the porte to declare war, and if this is the case, the plan seems to have worked successfully. Technically, Turkey will be the aggressor, and the Greeks will be in a position to declare that they are only fighting in defense of their territory.

As yet no advice has been received from the frontier to show that Edhem Pasha has made an offensive movement under the orders of the ministers, but this is probably due to the fact that the orders were received at too late an hour to permit of any large movement of the Turkish forces.

The events of tomorrow will be watched

TOOK A YEA AND NAY VOTE

The Democrats Force Republicans to a Roll Call.

STRAIGHTOUT POLICY WINS

Mr. De Armond Makes a Ringing Speech on the Proper Attitude of the Democracy—Mr. Bailey Takes The Times for a Text—House Adjourns Till Wednesday.

The Democrats of the House found their long hot voice yesterday, and, pushing young Mr. Bailey out of the way, proceeded to demand the yeas and nays on Mr. Dingley's motion to adjourn until Wednesday. Neither Mr. Reed in the chair nor Mr. Dingley on the floor could save their young Democratic friend, who, seeing the coming blow, dodged behind the skirts of Mr. Bland, of Missouri, and from that secure retreat emitted a pipe of defiance to the effect that any blow struck at his kind protector would be considered as personal to himself.

Mr. Bailey had heretofore announced his policy to be one of non-interference with the Reed program of adjournment, and had pledged the Democratic caucus to that position by a resolution prepared by himself. In his speech of yesterday he reiterated the same policy in even more positive terms. Mr. Bland, of Missouri, sat by his side, and it is a noteworthy coincidence that the opportunity which Mr. Bailey found to renege on his position assumed in the caucus and in his speech of yesterday grew out of a motion about to be made by the gentleman who sat by his side.

It was evident to everybody in the galleries at least that the tide was turning in the direction of a general debate. In other words, the Democrats were asserting themselves. It was in the rush of this tide of the momentary advantage to him that Mr. Bailey announced to the House that if the Speaker did not recognize Mr. Bland he (Bailey) and all of "us" would vote for the call of the yeas and nays. This demand at that time was a foregone conclusion, and Mr. Bailey himself had, by his resolution, practically said that he had suddenly changed his policy, the ostensible reason assigned by him being that he would resent any slight put upon Mr. Bland.

The mere fact of Mr. Reed refusing to recognize any Democrat, obstructing by methods not relating to adjournment, has been a thing of frequent occurrence; in fact, Mr. Bailey himself had, by his resolution in the caucus, sustained Mr. Reed in doing exactly what he yesterday maintained Mr. Reed should not do to Mr. Bland. The general impression, no doubt, was that Mr. Bailey had merely sought an excuse for his desire to follow the lead of the Democrats in calling for the yeas and nays. Mr. Bailey's speech was personal and altogether on the defensive. It started a debate which ended in the Democrats demanding the yeas and nays and adjournment on their demand.

The debate was heard and watched by galleries crowded to the walls. Attention for the past week or so has been focused on the factions of the Democracy in the House, and the public gathered to see what would be the result. The chief point of interest was whether the Democrats would be able to muster up a sufficient number to demand the yeas and nays, which demand heretofore has been persistently opposed by Mr. Bailey, the Democratic leader of the House.

An editorial in The Times, which was read from the Speaker's desk and commented on by Mr. Bailey, started the proceedings with considerable snap and passion. Mr. Dingley got rattled and lost track of his historic motion. Mr. Reed and Mr. Simpson had a few passages, personal explanations took the place of serious order, gentlemen were on the floor, and, moreover, and simultaneously talking and gesticulating in the atmosphere, and it ended in nearly all the Democrats standing up to demand the yeas and nays.

The attendance of both sides of the chamber was large, the expectation of something unusual evidently also accounting for this circumstance. Almost immediately after the ordinary routine Mr. Dingley, as was expected, arose and made his motion to adjourn until Wednesday, the three days' limit.

Before the Speaker had time to put this motion Mr. Bailey, who was on his feet before Mr. Dingley had finished his short motion, said:

Mr. Speaker, I rise to a question of personal privilege. I send to the clerk's desk and ask to have read an article which I have marked.

The clerk read as follows:

"FROM MAKER TO WEARER."

"The leadership of young Mr. Bailey in the House of Representatives is the leadership of old, old Mr. Reed, and the Democrats who submit to it might as consistently and more sensibly have voted for Mr. Reed for Speaker."

"If for places on prominent committees these gentlemen are willing to barter their party beliefs and the interests of the country, they could have done better for themselves by dealing directly with the Speaker in the first instance."

"The Reed brand of collar, like other modern manufactures, is cheap and sold directly from maker to wearer. There is no need of the middle man."

Mr. Speaker, there is but one answer to an honest and self-respecting man can make to an assault like that. It does not admit of argument. My only answer is that I denounce that statement as an infamous and malicious lie, and I denounce every man who has helped to circulate it as an infamous and malicious liar. (Applause.)

Mr. Speaker, inasmuch as my attitude toward the present situation in the House has been so grossly misunderstood, and, some, so grossly misrepresented by others, it is due to my friends that I should embrace this opportunity to define my exact position, which is this: I recognize that the Republican party has a large majority in this House and will therefore be held responsible by the country as well for the good which it fails to do as for the evil which it does; and in my judgment the Democratic party neither desires nor expects that its representatives here will resort to useless and factional obstruction to prevent the Republican majority from carrying its policies into execution. Until within the last few days I have understood this to be the position of all Democrats. Indeed many of them have gone beyond me. I hold in my hand a copy of the greatest metropolitan newspaper which today supports the regular organization of the Democratic party. The very second sentence in the



"Once I sat on a Sultan's knee."

leading editorial in its issue of April 10 declares:

"The people have given the Republicans power, and it is only right that they should have liberty to carry out their policies."

This is followed with the further statement: "The people knew when they gave the Republicans victory that they were voting for the party of protection. Whether the people have repented of their action or not is for the Republicans of the Senate to decide."

And the concluding paragraph of that editorial is in these words: "The Democrats of the Senate do well to let the Republicans tread the Dingley line press alone. It is right as well as politics that the party of protection should receive no outstretched hand to help in pulling it from the pit which it has dug for itself. Protection is committing suicide in full view of the country, which it so long has cursed."

The Atlanta Constitution, which is unquestionably one of the greatest Democratic newspapers published in the cotton-growing States, has from the day after the election contended for this policy, and in its editorial columns yesterday and today before it sustains the position we have taken. Leading Democratic Senators have assured me that the policy of our party in the Senate was that after a fair discussion of the tariff bill they would vote against its passage, and that they were disposed to adjourn when that business was disposed of. The distinguished Senator from Arkansas, Mr. Jones, who is the chairman of the Democratic national executive committee, has said in an interview written with his own hand:

"The Constitution is right. Great numbers of votes were carried to McKinley in the recent campaign by Republican promises to bring about bimetalism by an international agreement. By this proposition they confessed the necessity for bimetalism, but challenged our method of accomplishing it."

"Let them try their plan, and if it fails, then ours must be accepted. Independent action will be the only alternative. Their other proposition to bring about prosperity was to increase taxes—tariff taxes. These additional taxes were to make us prosperous and happy, and Democrats do not believe that taxes promote prosperity and will vote against all such schemes."

"But if the people have given the Republicans a sufficient number of votes to pass their bill the Democrats will give them full opportunity to do so, and the people will hold them accountable for the results. The Republican party and its theories are on trial for their existence. An actual test will determine the question. The people have ordered the test and we are anxious for it."

The distinguished Senator from Alabama (Mr. Morgan) says:

"I endorse very heartily the attitude of the Constitution in pointing out so clearly the Democratic duty to the country so far as the relationship of our Representatives in Congress to the new Administration is concerned. It has been a practical since the election to advocate at all times just such action as the Constitution points out. We will give the Republicans every chance to enact the policy of their Administration into the law of the land. Of course we surrender none of our convictions, but there is something more than mere party fealty expected of the Democrats, and that is that a duty to the people and to the business interests of the country they throw no capricious opposition in the way of the Republican Administration enacting such measures as they promise will bring about prosperity."

Mr. I could multiply these quotations almost indefinitely, but it is unnecessary to do so. Every man of sense understands that the minority can have no reasonable hope of inducing or compelling the majority to enact any measure of general importance upon which parties differ. If the House should determine to proceed with legislation, each of the most important committees would consist of eleven Republicans and six Democrats, and it would be utterly impossible for us to bring any measure of general importance before the House upon which we would be divided. It would thus happen that whatever important measures might come from those committees would command practically the united support of the Republican party and would become the law of the land."

Now, sir, there is an almost unanimous agreement among Democrats that Republican legislation is undesirable; but some of them seem to think that however un-

desirable Republican legislation may be, it is better for us to insist that the Republican party shall legislate than we shall vote with them on a motion to adjourn. It would be a sufficient answer to say that I cannot be deterred from voting for a motion which I favor, upon the silly ground that I am voting with the Republicans. I look to the motion, sir, and not to the maker of it. If the distinguished gentleman from Maine (Mr. Dingley) were to move that the House adjourn for two days, and the gentleman from Kansas (Mr. Simpson) were to move that the House adjourn for three days, I would unhesitatingly vote with the Republicans from Kansas for the longer adjournment, because I believe the longer the time for which a Republican Congress adjourns, the better it is for the country. (Applause on the Democratic side.)

The difference between me and some of my friends is, that they are so much opposed to the Republican party that they are willing to risk causing it to make bad laws in order to get an opportunity to

the people, and the Republican party secured a decision intruding them with the administration of the Government. They have now, so far as the House is concerned, attempted to comply with their contract to restore prosperity. They have maintained the gold standard, and they have passed a tariff bill with the duties higher than were ever before imposed in a time of peace. Having done this, they say that they have done all that is needed to relieve the country; and they propose to do nothing else, leaving the people to judge them by the results of what they have done.

If it will transpire that their tariff bill makes prosperous times, that they have acted wisely in adopting their present policy, but, on the other hand, if it shall transpire that their tariff bill disappoints its authors and the country, then the policy which they have adopted will be certain to destroy them. Whether their policy of inaction is wise or unwise depends entirely upon whether their bill was wise or unwise. If their bill was wise, they can safely stand upon it; but if their bill was unwise, their present course will work their own destruction.

I have heard it said that we ought to resist the Republican policy of inaction, because they have adopted it in their own interest; and that if it is best for them it must be worse for us. I perfectly agree that if this policy of inaction is best for the Republicans it is worse for the Democrats; but whether it is best for the Republicans or not depends wholly upon whether their tariff bill produces good results. If it does, then this policy of inaction insures Republican success; but if the Republican tariff bill does not produce good results, then this Republican policy of inaction makes Democratic success certain. If we believe that the Republican tariff bill will not produce the good results which the Republican leaders have promised, then it is to the advantage of the Republican party to resist from all further legislation and that the judgment of the country shall be rendered upon the record as now made up. Republican inaction is worse for them if a high tariff law is not beneficial to the country.

The whole question with the Democrats is: Are we ready to join the issue as it has been tendered to us by the Republicans? If we believe their tariff bill will fail, as we have declared it will, then, as Senator Jones and Senator Morgan say, we ought to be anxious for the test. Are we less confident that Republican policies will fail than Republican leaders are that those policies will succeed? If they are willing to apply their remedy, do we shrink from the test which they have proposed?

Mr. Speaker, for the first time since the war the party in power is to be judged by the results of its economic policies. Republican leaders profess themselves willing to take the judgment of the country upon those policies, and if we shrink from joining them in making the test, the country will charge, and it will have the right to charge, that we have no confidence in our promises of Republican failure. I am ready, if you gentlemen can bring prosperity, to bid you God speed in it. I am not a partisan, but I would rather have Republican prosperity than Democratic depression. (Applause.) But, confident in the correctness of my principles as I am in the eternal truths of heaven, I know that you are riding to your fall, and I know that when you stake your future success upon the property bought by a protective tariff you must lose the confidence of the American people. (Applause on the Democratic side.)

But, Mr. Speaker, I understand the difficulties of my position; and I understand that there are difficulties entirely independent of its merits or demerits. I know that every lobbyist and every man who has a special interest which this Congress is expected to serve is assailing me and assailing everybody who is willing to exempt the country from the infliction of the Republican laws. The railroads, through their agents and attorneys, are here, clamoring for a pooling bill that will enable them to avoid the effect of competition with each other. The railroads do not care if the Government currency is retired and if the national banking system is perpetuated, provided that they are permitted, under the color and forms of law, to relieve themselves from competition with each other.

Every man who owns or who is the attorney of both parties was submitted to

criticize it. I am so much opposed to Republican principles that I am willing to forego the opportunity of criticizing that party, if I can save the country from the application of its principles. (Applause on the Democratic side.) It is not often that I am able to vote with Republicans, because it is not often that they are right, (renewed applause); but seldom as I agree with them, I will never hesitate to agree with them when they are willing to stand before the people and admit that it is for the best interests of the country that they shall refrain from making laws. (Applause on the Democratic side.)

There are very few propositions upon which I could agree with the Republican leaders; but, sir, I am more than ready to agree with them when they are ready to stand before the people and admit that it is for the best interests of the country that they shall refrain from making laws. (Applause on the Democratic side.)

If the Democrats constituted a majority of this body, I should insist upon proceeding with its work, because I believe that the laws which would be passed by a Democratic Congress would promote the welfare of the country and the happiness of the people. But the same reason reversed, which would compel me to insist upon a Democratic Congress legislating, compels me to insist that a Republican Congress shall not legislate, because I believe that Republican legislation is detrimental to the welfare of the country and to the happiness of the people.

But, Mr. Speaker, it is charged that I am acquiescing in a Republican policy. I am doing nothing of the kind. On the contrary, sir, I am joining issue with the Republicans on their policy. During the last campaign they sought the happiness of the people. But the same reason reversed, which would compel me to insist upon a Democratic Congress legislating, compels me to insist that a Republican Congress shall not legislate, because I believe that Republican legislation is detrimental to the welfare of the country and to the happiness of the people.

Upon these respective contentions, the claims of both parties were submitted to

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BIGGS CREVASSE WIDENING

The Break Will Soon Measure a Mile in Width.

TENSAS FARMS FLOODED

The Town of Delta Almost Entirely Covered With Water—The Great Yazoo Delta a Vast Sea—Over One Thousand More Refugees Crowded Into Vicksburg.

New Orleans, April 17.—This afternoon the crevasse at the Biggs levee was 1,200 feet wide and pouring hourly 300,000,000 cubic feet of water over the lands of the Tensas basin.

The Biggs levee is 8,000 long, and most of it is so weak that the break is expected to soon measure to a mile in width. The country back from the Mississippi to the Tensas has been settled up in the last few years, and is today in a highly prosperous condition. All this land will go under water, and so deeply that it will be extremely dangerous to life unless the people living in the section have profited by the frequent alarms sounded.

A swamp immediately back of the Biggs break will take some time for the river to fill. When it has filled up, it will pour over on the farms in central Madison, placing them all under water.

The amount of damage done to the big cotton plantations in the Tensas, is not yet known. If the crevasse can be held within limits, the Tensas and Atchafalaya will carry off most of the flood water. If, however, the break increases, as it probably will, because of the character of the soil of the levee, a large amount of water going through the crevasse, will flood the lands in Tensas and Concordia parishes, besides inflicting severe loss and damage in the low lands of Catahoula and Franklin. The crevasse caused a fall in the river at Vicksburg and all neighboring points, and may check the rise below for a few days, but it will prove no relief to the country, and will only do harm in the end by keeping the flood up much longer than expected.

All the water going through the Biggs crevasse will find its way into Red River through the Ouachita, and most of it will return ultimately to the Mississippi in the next two or three days, causing a severe and prolonged strain to the levees south of Red River. A portion of it will go down the already swollen Atchafalaya, endangering all the sugar cane on the stream. The Biggs break, therefore, will not only damage the cotton plantations in the north Louisiana and Concordia parishes, but will also endanger the sugar cane in the southern part of the State. The break last night will probably stop the Vicksburg, Shreveport and Pacific Railroad from running, damaging the water up against it from Delta to Vicksburg. The line from Delta to Vicksburg will be closed, and the water will be almost entirely under water and will be completely so by morning.

It was feared that if a break occurred in the Tensas line of levees it would cause such damage to the cotton plantations in the next two or three days, causing a severe and prolonged strain to the levees south of Red River. A portion of it will go down the already swollen Atchafalaya, endangering all the sugar cane on the stream. The Biggs break, therefore, will not only damage the cotton plantations in the north Louisiana and Concordia parishes, but will also endanger the sugar cane in the southern part of the State. The break last night will probably stop the Vicksburg, Shreveport and Pacific Railroad from running, damaging the water up against it from Delta to Vicksburg. The line from Delta to Vicksburg will be closed, and the water will be almost entirely under water and will be completely so by morning.

The situation at New Orleans is not encouraging, and in some places the water is nearly to the top of the levee. Today a great quantity of earth was piled up on the levee, and the situation is regarded as better.

THE SITUATION APPALLING.

The Great Yazoo Delta a Vast Sea of Water.

Vicksburg, Miss., April 17.—At 6 p. m. the Mississippi River was at the 52.1-foot stage, a fall of four-tenths in eighteen hours, no doubt due to last night's disastrous crevasse in the Biggs levee. The situation tonight is appalling. The rich and great Yazoo delta, 250 miles long by 75 wide, is a vast sea of water, and many valuable plantations are damaged almost to their full value.

The enormous volume of water rushing through the crevasse is increasing every hour, and at dark the break was said to be fully 1,500 feet wide, with an average depth of eight feet. Many of the finest plantations are already under water, and the next forty-eight hours will see a much larger territory devastated.

Over 1,000 persons have been added to the large number of refugees already in Vicksburg in the last twenty-four hours.

THE NEWPORT'S SPEED TRIAL.

She Does Very Well Notwithstanding an Unfavorable Sea.

Bath, Me., April 17.—The first preliminary speed trials of the composite gunboat Newport was made today at the deep sea one-mile course, off Southport. The southeast wind that had prevailed for eighteen hours made quite a lumpy sea.

The Newport was run over the mile course four times and each trial exceeded the speed required by contract, which is twelve knots. Her hull was foul and it is believed that had it been cleaned the speed attained would have been fourteen knots.

Steamer Woods Makes Harbor.

Benton Harbor, Mich., April 17.—The steamer Frank Woods, which was to be lost with all on board here after a most exciting Milwaukee Thursday night storm yesterday on Lake Michigan, was today compelled to use a cable of kelp to keep up a hand, of Saugatuck, badly injured by the storm.

Deaths.

Col. W. W. Kellogg, Infantry, at Athens, Ga. Henry Hyde, a native

Continued on Second Page.